

myself (for sites in eastern England) at the address below, or to Mr. W. G. Shreeves, 5 Butt's Mead, Shaftesbury, Dorset (for sites in the western half of England).

It may be of interest to add that while working on the ecology of the Duke of Burgundy at Selborne during the past few years, some useful discoveries have been made. For example, the main predator on *Lucina* is a snail (*Monacha cantiana*) which, seemingly accidentally devours the ova on the Cowslip leaves. Does the same happen to the ova in other localities? So far we have received information from a number of entomologists, and initial indications suggest an alarming recent decline in the number of sites occupied by *Lucina*, especially in woods. — M. R. OATES, The Lodge, Wyck Place, Wyck, Alton, Hampshire.

*NYMPHALIS ANTIOPA* L. AT SEA. — While fishing two miles off the southern coast of the island of Spetses, in Greece, in late October 1981, I observed a single *Nymphalis antiopa* flying about one metre above the sea and heading toward the island.

The only places in that area where this butterfly is resident, are the higher mountains of the Peloponnissos and its appearance near the island of Spetses must be attributed to forced migration due to adverse weather conditions in its natural habitat.

It is assumed that its journey must have started somewhere in the Parnon mountains of eastern Peloponnissos and that the butterfly covered a distance of about 20 kilometres, while flying over the sea. — J. G. COUTSIS, 4 Glykonos Street, Athens 139, Greece.

*YPONOMEUTA EVONYMELLA* (LINNAEUS) IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND. — I should be grateful for any information regarding the foodplant of this species in the south of England. Further north it feeds on bird-cherry (*Prunus padus*), often in great profusion, whole trees being sometimes completely covered in larval webs and entirely defoliated. In the south, bird-cherry is scarce and the few trees I have seen have not been attacked. Yet *Y. evonymella* occurs at low density even in areas where bird-cherry is apparently absent.

In 1970 I brought a web of these larvae home from Derbyshire. After the branch on which they were feeding had all been consumed, being unable to locate further supplies of bird-cherry, I tried them on leaves of damson-plum from the garden. Finding that they accepted this, I sleeved out half the larvae on the damson-tree. These ceased to feed and all perished. Those in the plastic box, which retained the remains and in particular the smell of the original foodplant, fed on and produced adults, all of which, however, were undersized.

In 1981 two adults appeared here in Saffron Walden at lighted windows. In 1982, when I was lent a light-trap for a few days in July, they were fairly common, about six appearing each night, but settling around the trap in preference to entering into it. The feature which struck me about these moths was that they were all undersized like those I have just mentioned.

It is possible that they had fed on blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*),